

BE DEAR OF ALL



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In the name of Allah the Gracious the Merciful

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Namely there are two types of people with whom we live, known and unknown. We seldom find ourselves among the known, most of the time we surrounded with the unfamiliar faces. Some time on a visit to a market and sometime during the journey we find no one known around. It's a fact that with strangers we form a physical relationship. This relation needs just an action to turn it into a social relation. It means to make the unknown, known we need to take a timely initiative. The people who are equipped with the communication skills considered to be master in making friends and mingling with one and all. Just think how a person becomes an intimate friend? The initiation of an innate friendship might have begun with a stranger who was unfamiliar in all sense. Just one word – attitude – acted as a catalyst of friendship between the two. Let's have a look at its manifestations:

1) Bid Salaam

As Salaamu Alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakatuhu – peace and blessings of Allah be upon you – these few words introduces the one who utters. That he is bearer of peace and a true well wisher. The moment the words spoken, it tears the veil of strangeness and the two continue their course of discussion on friendly lines. Expression of the words of peace – Salaam – must be for both known and unknown alike. It cultivates mutual love and affection. Make it a habit. If you bid Salaam first it means your heart

is free of arrogance. You will reap highest number of virtues too.

2) *Smile Please*

Just give a diagonally curve moment to the lips, the expression on your face is a smile. It speaks louder than the words. It needs merely a few seconds and little effort to bring a smile on the face, whereas the impact it exerts is overwhelmingly immeasurable in terms of joyous moments it brings. Smiling face introduces the person, even before meeting, he orally communicates that it's a pleasant moment for him. Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said your smiling at the face of your brother is an act of charity. Giving material thing to the needy fulfill the requirements, smiling also fills the saddened heart with joy, gloomy eyes with a comfort. Keep smiling it cost nothing but a little and cautious effort.

3) *Shake Hand*

Shake hand firmly with your friend. The warmth of the hands illuminates the friendship and communicates a lot with an inexpressible mean. If you shake hands with other it means you have honored that person, your heart is free from ill thoughts of division of human dignity. Shaking hands actually communicates a message that though we are of different existence but our hearts are as close as the palms of hands. Shaking of hands was a common practice during the period of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), the noble gesture of Prophet (pbuh) was that he used to hold the hand until the companion himself loosen their grip.

4) Offer Seat

Offering seat to the person nearby is a resemblance of great character. Be in a function or in a journey, offer seat to the person standing or in search of a sitting place. If the person happens to be an old man, or a handicap or a woman the gesture need to be portrayed with lightning speed. The Quran clearly indicates to behave well with the person nearby, be in a journey or in a function:

Be kind to the neighbor who is stranger
(Surah An Nisa: 36)

make it obligatory for us to be kind to our time-being neighbors.

5) Behave well with the Neighbour

A neighbour is a live parameter to measure what we are, good or bad? Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) replied to a companion's ® query about the criterion to judge between good and bad by saying, you are good if your neighbour says you are good and you are bad if your neighbour says so. Not just to prove that you are good; behave well with the neighbour with a sole intention to please the Almighty. It is an immediate circle after your own self and home that needs to be influenced and benefitted with your vibrant faith. Be aware of your neighbour, lend your helping hand to fulfill the needs and heed to the emotions and concerns he has.

6) Don't Speak Ill in the Absence

When among friends we do discuss about the one who leaves first. Sometimes good things or sometime bad things about him happen to be the topic of discussion. This one

aspect actually puts before us a bench mark in view of which we can think of becoming dear to others. If you have a wish that people must remember you with good words soon after you leave, make it a habit of not speaking ill about anyone in his absence.

7) *Pray in the absence*

Prayer for a brother or sister in the absence causes that prayer to be answered very quickly. Though this virtuous act is not known to the person for whom we pray, but God Almighty nurtures a kind of respect and love in his heart. Get closer to your friend, find out his needs and problems and pray for his well being. God willing the same will be accepted on your account too.

8) *Invite for a Cup of Tea*

Our dining table must adorn the companionship of virtuous people, this is what the true believers have been advised. Do invite just for a cup of tea and talk casually on varied subjects. Let the outcome of sitting benefits both the persons.

9) *Visit Home*

Visit your friend's home with regular intervals. Not to return the dues, not to take any notes, not to seek any help, nor for any formal conversation, just for the sake of Allah. Your act will certainly strengthen the bonding and nourishes love for you in the heart of your friend.

10) *Offer Gift*

Gifts promote love and affection. Gift should not matter size and quantity. What matter most is a gesture of giving something with selfless intention. Prophet Muhammad

(pbuh) said don't refuse if any one offers to you a flower in gift, accept it wholeheartedly as it is lighter in weight and good in fragrance. Keep finding occasions to offer gifts.

11) Sit with a Friend for Allah's sake

Invite your friend just to sit with him for the sake of Allah. The idea does not seem to be a usual one, isn't it? But you should make it a practice, when two souls meet in the name of Allah their discussion find the Divine flavor and their bonding cruise with an affectionate bliss.

12) Mingle with All

Unconditional attitude is a prerequisite of finding a respectable place in someone's heart. One should not be so negative in approach that he tends to behave well only when people behave well with him. This should not be the case of a person who wants to be dear to all. He is supposed to behave well with all regardless of one's behaviour. The Muslims who mingles with people and remain steadfast over their misbehavior is better than the one who does not mingle with person nor remains steadfast over their wrongdoings. Do not be selective; embarrass one and all with your bold approach and conquering love.



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